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Near Miss/Surface Haulage Accident

On June 28, 2003, a hauler operator with 18 years mining experience received minimal injuries when he accidentally backed over a berm at a Buchanan County surface coal mine. Foggy weather conditions impaired his visibility and the victim thought he was backing toward the dump when he backed over the right berm, turned over and scooted approximately 40 feet down a slope. The hauler operator stated that as the truck began rearing up, thoughts of safety training went through his mind about being buckled up, bracing himself and not jumping out. His main concern was to hang on and he is now convinced more than ever, that seat belts do save lives. Every equipment operator should buckle up on the job, and while driving to and from work.

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SAFETY KEYPOINTS

1. Seat belts should be used at all times while the mobile equipment is in operation!
2. Remaining inside a vehicle is one of the best practices for avoiding serious injury during a vehicle accident!
3. Familiarize yourself with your surroundings, know your location at all times.
4. Travel speed should be appropriate for weather conditions.

PLEASE POST "2003"

For additional information or assistance, contact the Division of Mines, Big Stone Gap (276) 523-8227 or Keen Mountain Field Office (276) 498-4533

ACCIDENT
REDUCTION PROGRAM

